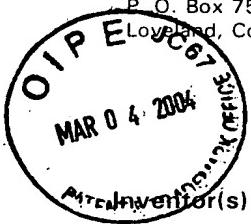


AGILENT TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
Legal Department, DL429
Intellectual Property Administration
P. O. Box 7599
Loveland, Colorado 80537-0599

PATENT APPLICATION
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 10971464-3



IN THE
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): Karen W. Shannon, et al.

Serial No.: 09/784,674

Examiner: Channing Mahatan

Filing Date: Feb. 15, 2001

Group Art Unit: 1631

Title: Methods for Evaluating Oligonucleotide Probe Sequences

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

In an Office Action mailed on Nov. 5, 2003, on the above-identified U.S. Patent application, a shortened statutory period of 3 months was set for response. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a), applicant(s) hereby request(s) a:

- (X) one month
() two months
() three months
() four months

time extension so that the period for response to the Office Action expires on March 5, 2004.

Authorization to charge the fee required by 37 CFR 1.17 to Deposit Account 50-1078 appears in the enclosed transmittal letter. At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-1078 pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25.

03/08/2004 EHAILE1 00000063 501078 09784674

01 FC:1251 110.00 DA

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as:

- (X) First Class Mail
() "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10.
"Express Mail" label no.

in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date of Deposit: March 1, 2004

Typed Name: Theodore J. Leitereg

Signature:

Respectfully submitted,

Karen W. Shannon, et al.

By
Theodore J. Leitereg

Theodore J. Leitereg
Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 28,319

Date: March 1, 2004

Telephone No.: (650) 485-2386